

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

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N. R. P. A.

TO THOSE WHO ARE NOT SUBSCRIBERS.

As we send out several thousand sample copies of this issue, we wish to call the attention of those who are not subscribers to the fact that we are still receiving subscriptions at the rate of \$1 per year.

As to the paper—it speaks for itself. No other \$1 North Carolina weekly, not a rehash from dailies, is so large, and no other North Carolina paper of any kind or price gives so much reading matter of special interest to farmers, and to the ladies and young people.

To those who wish to become acquainted with it before subscribing, we will say: The paper will be sent from now till Nov. 18th for only 10 cents. It will be sent till January 1st, 1899, for only 20 cents. It will be sent till March 15, 1899 so that you will get in this time the full proceedings of the Legislature as well as campaign news, for only 40 cents.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Davidson County Alliance meets Oct. 22, 1 p. m., with Gravel Hill Sub. The Alliance shoe factory started work yesterday. Send in your orders for shoes.

The new ritual is a decided improvement. A set of six, with key, 60 cts. Order with seal.

Pledge your candidates to vote for lower freight rates and two cents per mile passenger fares.

Judge Eugene D. Carter, of Asheville, one of the best known and most popular men in Western North Carolina, died last week.

Wonder why Mr. Atwater doesn't accept our offer to support him if he can show that Atkins is not in favor of the reforms Atwater claims to favor?

Senator Butler will speak at Clinton Saturday October 22nd, and Hon. Jas. B. Lloyd at Black Creek same day. Senator Butler also speaks at Wilmington, Oct. 25; Snow Hill, Oct. 26; Nashville, Oct. 27; Warrenton, Oct. 29.

The "Timely Suggestions" in our agricultural columns should be headed, and account books similar to those spoken of on the same page should be opened up on every farm.

We call the especial attention of every farmer and of every newspaper to the call of Prof. F. E. Emery, Secretary-Treasurer of the North Carolina State Dairyman's Association for the organization of a Live Stock Association in this State. This matter should be pushed and pushed at once.

Farmers should not fail to read the interesting letter from Bro. T. B. Parker in this issue. He tells some plain truths. And in this connection, we are glad to note that the Business Agency is prospering and doing a large business. It is unnecessary to say that every farmer should patronize it—to do so is a duty pleasant in every way, and altogether profitable.

Last week we mentioned the fact that in New York and Connecticut the Democrats have virtually repudiated Bryan and free silver. And now the New Jersey Democrats have held their convention and ignored the silver question. It is plain that the Democratic party is rapidly drifting back into the gold standard harbor. We predict that in 1900 they will ignore silver, turn down Bryan and attempt to humbug the people with the old cry of tariff.

Rev. (T. W. Babb and negro editor) Manly are very much displeased with the present State administration. Democratic papers are quoting these leading opponents of fusion quite extensively. You are quite welcome to these two more or less distinguished citizens, Bro. Democrat. We are certainly not likely to die of sorrow because they are working with the "lily whites," and furnishing campaign material for "white unions." Bah!

"FIENDS INCARNATE" ATTACK A BRAVE OLD MINISTER OF THE GOSPEL—DEMOCRATIC MACHINE WORK.

Perhaps never in the history of our good old State has there been an occurrence of which every citizen should be more ashamed than the disgraceful treatment of Rev. J. L. Burns at Roberstonville, Wednesday October 12th. Four times did cowardly ruffians, servants of the machine now attempting to get control of the State, attack him with rocks or brickbats as well as eggs. Mr. Burns is a minister of the Gospel, and was standing by a brother minister at church during one attack; he lost his right arm in the service of his State in the civil war, and had on a Confederate gray suit when these fiendish, black hearted thugs attacked him with eggs and brickbats. Every Christian, every patriot, every soldier, be he Democrat or Populist, should join hands to wipe out the so called Democratic machine, which respects neither patriotism, age nor Christianity. It must be beaten. Decency and virtue demand it.

STATE IS ALL RIGHT.

With the exception of three States, more miles of railroad have been built in North Carolina since the first of January last than in any State in the Union. If we count the projected lines upon which work will probably begin before the end of the year, North Carolina has finished and begun more miles of railroad this year than any State in the Union. Judging from reports to manufacturing journals, at least twice as many cotton mills have been built in the State this year as in any State in the Union—possibly three times as many, and others are under way. Several old mills have been enlarged. The above facts alone are sufficient to give the lie to the assertions of the hired Democratic newspapers and hired speakers to the effect that fusion rule is driving capital out of the State or in any way retarding industrial progress.

SOME DECENT DEMOCRATIC ARGUMENT (?)

Butler is a "Gaiteau faced Devil."—Statesville Landmark, Oct. 11, 1898. This is "decency!"

"Are not the negroes the best part of the fusion layout?"—Charlotte Observer. This is "white supremacy!"

Language ten times as vile and indecent was applied by the Beaufort Herald Dispatch of Sept. 9th to Mr. H. E. King and our editor in chief—too indecent to copy here. Surely, we have fallen upon evil days when such vile sheets claim to be organs of decency.

If we had no other reason for voting the fusion ticket, we should consider it our duty to do all in our power to crush a machine that attacks brave old ministers of the gospel and by slanders, falsehoods and lack of decency have disgraced themselves and attempted to disgrace the State.

The Democratic statesmen pretend that the white women of the State are very much excited over negro domination. We have yet to see one of this kind. But we have heard of several who know the cry is a false one. One gentleman of our acquaintance, recently told his wife that he did not know that she should vote for all the fusion nominees. Her reply was: "You shall do it." A young man who, it was rumored would vote with the Democrats, was told by his mother that he must not vote at all if that was his intention. There are many other intelligent ladies in this State who are equally disgusted with the indecent cartoons and slanders circulated by the Democratic machine. Oh, no—the ladies of the State are too intelligent to be fooled by the cry of "nigger." And they are too virtuous to support a party whose only argument is indecent cartoons, and stale eggs for Christ's servants.

CIRCUMSTANCES ALTERS CASES

Some so called silver Democrats can't see how Senator Pritchard, a goldbug and THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER, an ardent advocate of free silver, can join hands in support of the fusion ticket.

But these same so called silver Democrats can readily see how they and the infamous goldbug negro Editor Manly of the Wilmington Record can join hands in opposing Gov. Russell and fusion.

DO YOU SEE?

LOGIC THAT IS NOT LOGIC.

A certain class of newspapers and politicians in this State who do not care how low they sink the State if they can thereby secure political spoils, are constantly holding up the State as an undesirable place to live. They say capital won't come here on account of the political conditions existing. A greater falsehood was never uttered.

North Carolina has been under "fusion rule" as they term it, four years. In that period more capital has been invested in fixed property in the State than during any four years since

the war. Manufacturing in all lines has increased faster than in any other Southern State, and all the others are under Democratic rule. Take tobacco manufacturing for instance. Reports show that 7,683,000 pounds more plug tobacco was manufactured in the State last year than was the year before; 3,450,000 more cigars were made. In four years the number of cotton mills has increased faster than for any other four years, and in addition to new mills many mills were enlarged. Many miles of railroad were built, more, we think, than in any Southern State, and the older roads have been ballasted and greatly improved in the past four years. Among the permanent railroad improvements may be mentioned the splendid shops of the Southern Railway near Salisbury, which cost many hundreds of thousands of dollars. Many other manufacturing concerns have been started, including furniture factories, tanneries, and lumber mills. At least ninety per cent of the towns and cities in the State have grown rapidly in population and buildings since 1894. Not long ago Charlotte papers boasted that a new residence was completed there for every day last year. The record was nearly as large in Raleigh, there being about three hundred new residences built here last year, many of them fine ones, and the building spirit is as active this year. The same is true of nearly every large town in the State and many small ones. All this industrial progress has been right after the worst panic the country ever saw and when the price of farm products is extremely low and general trade dull. The man who says North Carolina is not progressing in most lines, and as rapidly, too, as the financial condition of the country will permit, is a slanderer of the best State in the Union.

REGARDING NEGRO SCHOOL COMMITTEEMEN.

It is admitted by all parties that the State has not for many years had such an efficient and business like Superintendent of Public Instruction as she has at present—a man whose heart and soul is in the fight for the betterment of our public schools. Mr. Mebane takes no active part in politics and believes that the taint of partisanship should be removed from our public schools.

In an interview with him a few days ago we asked him what he thought of the statement now often heard that in some parts of the State negroes controlled white schools and that white teachers were compelled to go to negroes to have their vouchers signed, etc.

"The charge," said Mr. Mebane, "is utterly false. There is not, so far as I can learn, a single public school committee in the State, a majority of the members of which are negroes. Under the old law there were many complaints of mismanagement of funds by ignorant committeemen. Under the new law, the fact is, that instead of losing control of their schools, the whites have retained control of their own and gained control of the negro schools."

And so here is another charge of the Democratic negro lamity howlers exploded.

Asked as to the probability of the repeal by the next legislature of the law authorizing the holding of local tax elections, Mr. Mebane said:

"I do not think the law will be repealed. I trust, however, that the time of holding the election will be changed to the time of holding the general election in order to save expense. And, by the way, some parties have greatly exaggerated the cost of holding this election last year. It is charged that the cost was \$50,000. As a matter of fact, it was only about \$12,000 or \$15,000."

SOME FACTS FOR THE STAR.

We were recently in Gulf township, Chatham county. We heard a vague rumor that one Populist in that precinct had returned to the Democratic party. We don't know whether it was true or not. We did not hear his name. Since we have learned from a reliable source that the Populists there are gaining ground and that some Democrats are going to them. But let us admit that one Populist did go back. The next day we returned to Raleigh and found it had been telegraphed to the Wilmington that "AT LEAST ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY POPULISTS" in the precinct referred to had returned to the Democrats. This takes rank with the statement that 700 Populists in Halifax had gone back, when in fact there were at the last election only 262 in the county.

This thing of multiplying the number populists by 150, it seems, would not be very encouraging to Democrats: for instance, multiply 50,000 (the number of Populists in the State) by 150 and we have 7,500,000. Subtract from that 110,000 (a liberal estimate of the number of Democrats) and we have a Populist majority of 7,390,000. So you see, according to the Star's Arithmetic, Populist success is assured.

SOME QUESTIONS ANSWERED.

Why The Progressive Farmer Supports the Fusion Ticket—Two Open Letters.

Editors Progressive Farmer, Raleigh, N. C.:

Will you please explain through THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER

1st. Why you sanction everything that is done by the Republican party in this State?

2d. Why do you abuse the Democratic party for everything they have done? What have the Republicans done for the good of the State?

3d. Where will the People's party get to if it continues to fuse with the Republican party?

4th. Tell us what to do with our cry against the gold standard, trusts and monopolies now that we fuse with a gold standard party?

5th. Where must we look for recruits for the People's party?

6th. Tell us whether Craven and other counties are doing better under negro magistrates and deputy sheriffs than under the white man? We have here in Alamance a negro school committeeman who cannot read or write.

7th. What would L. L. Polk do were he here to-day?

While I do not agree with you on politics, I like your paper and expect to continue to read it. The agricultural matter on the first page alone is worth to a live farmer many times the price of the whole paper.

J. A. LOY.

Loy, N. C.

RALEIGH, N. C., Oct. 14, 1898.

J. A. Loy, Loy, N. C.:

DEAR SIR:—After misrepresenting our position as you do, it does not seem that you could expect us to publish your letter. If you will read our editorials as well as the "agricultural matter on the first page," you will find that we do not "sanction everything that is done by the Republican party," neither do we "abuse the Democrats for everything they have done." As to what the Republicans have done for the good of the State, will say we are not set for the defense of the Republicans. But, taking the record of each party in this State since 1892, the question is more easily answered than the one: "What have the Democrats done for the good of the State?" We will, however, say something regarding this question before closing.

As to "where the People's party will get recruits" and "where it will get to" if fusion is continued, that question can be best answered by another question: "Where will the People's party get recruits and where will it get to if it allows the Simmons-Ransom gang to again get the reins of government, fasten another infamous election law upon us, repeal the charter of the only farmers' organization in the State, set up a double room bar in the capitol, increase the tax on farm and farm stock, run the State Department without books, approve the infamous oyster frauds and the equally infamous 99 year lease, enact an 8 per cent. interest law and continue their policy of taxing persons attempting to induce negro emigration and of scorning and cursing all honorable attempts to get the white men of the State together?"

This is the record of the gang that are now attempting to regain control of the State, and if the Republican party has done nothing else, it has at least co-operated with the Populists in their efforts to nullify these obnoxious laws.

Which party, judging by this record (which you and every Democrat must admit is their true record) is the greater friend of "the gold standard, of trusts, and of corporations?"

You ask what would Col. L. L. Polk do were he living to-day? Let us see.

Col. Polk was the greatest friend the Farmers' Alliance ever had. Do you believe he would vote for a party that attempted to kill it by repealing its charter?

Col. Polk favored honesty. Do you believe he would approve a party whose managers manipulated the 99-year lease and the infamous oyster frauds?

Col. Polk was a friend to popular education. Do you think he would repudiate the party that has given us better public schools than ever before?

Col. Polk was an earnest advocate of sobriety. Do you think he would want a double room bar in our State Capitol?

Col. Polk favored honesty. Do you think he would endorse bull pens and secret circulars to cheat people out of their right to vote?

Col. Polk was a business man. Do you think he would want to see the State Department managed without books, and money and business letters unattended to thrown into a waste pile?

Col. Polk was a friend to the farmer. Do you think he would want to see their taxes raised, or the six per cent. interest law, enacted for their benefit, repealed?

Col. Polk was an advocate of free silver, and an opponent of trusts and

monopolies. Do you think he would be working with a party that refused a proposition for the election of nine free silver and anti-monopoly Congressmen? No, there can be no doubt as to the position of Col. Polk were he living to-day. He would be fighting as ever for honesty, sobriety, the farmer's rights, and honest elections.

In fact, all your questions may be summed up in this one: "Why does THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER support the fusion ticket?" And the answer is the same as the answer given to your question regarding Col. Polk. We are fighting for his principles. And we are opposed and abused even as he was opposed and abused. The same News and Observer, with the same following that abused and maligned him now abuse and malign us.

If you read THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER carefully, you know that we are opposed to fusion with the Republican or any other party in either State or National matters. But as you know, there are times when it is not advisable to cut off your nose to spite your face. In 1896 the Democrats nominated Bryan for President and although Populists dislike fusion, they voted for Bryan almost solidly. Had Democrats done likewise Bryan would to-day be President.

And this year, although Populists dislike fusion, they have co-operated with the Republicans in order to keep the State from falling into the hands of the clique, the record of which I have just presented, and who are enemies not alone to Populism and reform, but to the principles advocated by the rank and file of their own party.

The same State Chairman and the same gang that managed the Cleveland goldbug campaign of 1892 are now managing this Democratic campaign. The same F. M. Simmons, whom Vance declared unfit to hold an office to which he had been appointed, is again State Chairman of the Democratic Committee. The same gang that then rotten eggged and abused Populists, the same gang that then circulated secret circulars and fixed up plans to disfranchise honest voters is now in control of the Democratic machinery and the same again adopted methods. The same Jao. D. Bellamy, who was the chief promoter of the plan by which the entire Populist vote of Brunswick county was thrown out, is now a Democratic candidate for Congress. The same News and Observer that then declared that Populists were liars, traitors and hirelings, is again the State Organ of the party. The same gang that rejected Bryan's recommendations at the recent State Convention is at the helm.

Have not the Populists acted wisely in adopting the surest measures in order to defeat this clique? The man who believes that they will give reform or good government is welcome to the belief, but if he wants to keep out of the insane asylum he should not make a public confession of it.

True they are now howling nigger. Don't you remember that they also howled incompetency, until their own incompetency was exposed? Then they said we were attacking the dead.

Don't you remember that they also howled "pardons" until it was shown that in this line Gov. Carr had a worse record than Russell?

Don't you remember that they also howled about increase in expenditures until they were challenged to show a single cent misappropriated?

Don't you remember that they also howled about the farmer being taxed for this until the charge was proved to be utterly false?

Don't you remember that they also howled about escaping convicts until we showed that there were 52 escapes in 1896, and only 40 last year under the new regime?

Don't you remember that they also howled about the penitentiary until their own record then was made public?

Don't you remember that they also howled about Jim Young inspecting the white Blind Institution until it was shown to be Democratic work?

And now—of course, they give that meaningless, hypocritical yell, "nigger!" They have nothing else to do. It is a last resort, and you know that the drowning man will catch at a straw, if nothing more substantial presents itself.

Certainly, they howl nigger. It's to keep the people from reasoning. It's to draw attention from their disgraceful management of State affairs. It's done in order that they may slip in and disfranchise the poor and unlettered. It's done in order to draw attention from the fact that their party is controlled by goldbugs and monopolists and in order to draw attention from such exposures of their corruption as we have made regarding their management of the Secretary of State's office.

Their howl of "white supremacy" is a hypocritical one. Read our supplement this week. Remember, too, that when Jim Young inspected the Blind Institution under Democratic orders it

was all right. When Cleveland gave negroes \$50,000 offices it was all right.

They howl "white supremacy," but to give white supremacy is not their object. To protect womanhood is not their object. To give good government is not their object.

To serve the monopolies and railroads, as directed by overseer A. B. Andrews, is their object. To undo the good work of the present administration is their object. To put on the statute books a law which will be the death knell of "the freedom and sanctity" of the ballot is their object.

We do not believe that you wish to help them carry out this diabolical scheme. But you have been misled, just as they have misled others. And in speaking of the Democrats in this letter, we refer not to the honest rank and file who have been misled, but to the machine that now controls the party.

You mention a negro school committeeman who cannot read or write. We condemn that. Those who appointed him should be ashamed of it. You mention Craven county's negro overseers and deputy sheriffs. Read the letter on page 1 from a gentleman of Craven who says there are not as many negro road overseers in his township under fusion rule as there were under Democratic rule. And for a long list of negro officers, read our supplement this week. We regret to have to print such facts. A campaign fought on race prejudice is disgraceful. We regret that this campaign has been fought not on principle, but on "the nigger." But we are not to blame. The party that on May 26th rejected Bryan's recommendations, stabbed silver and put secret circulars Simmons at its head, had to raise smoke to hide its record, and if it has sufficed in the attempt we cannot help it.

We are in favor of white supremacy. But we do not believe that North Carolina is in danger of negro domination. Our Democratic friends say they do fear "negro rule." The Democratic party is the only body of white men in this State that does claim to fear negro domination. And yet, mark well my words, for they cannot be denied, the Democratic party is the only body of white men in the State that ever made an inexcusable refusal of a plan, safe, simple and sure as time itself to get the white men of the State together and prevent all negro domination. They have never attempted to tell why they refused the Populist proposition to co-operate.

Why?

BECAUSE THAT ACT PROVED BEYOND A SHADOW OF A DOUBT THAT THEY DO NOT FEAR NEGRO DOMINATION, OR IF THEY DO FEAR IT, THEY HAD EITHER THE STATE WOULD SUFFER THE HORRORS OF NEGRO RULE THAN THAT THEY SHOULD RISK THE CHANCE OF LOSING A FEW MEASLY LITTLE OFFICES.

This cannot be denied. The Democratic speakers may dodge, prevaricate and raise smoke to their heart's content, but they cannot help acknowledging the truth of this statement. By their own acts they have proved it, and thereby killed their last reason for demanding again the reins of government.

A Democrat said to us recently that he wished "all the fusionists who voted for negro rule had to live under negro rule in New Bern or Wilmington."

And then we were cruel enough to ask him if he didn't wish also that all the members of that party that put \$10,000 tax on Peg leg Williams and others who attempted to carry negroes out of the State, and the party that refused on May 26th a plan to get the white men of the State together, had to live under negro rule.

Well, he was "struck silent." Such impertinent questions put a quietus on the negro howlers.

On the same day we heard a Democrat howling about the election of D. L. Russell to succeed '99 year lease" Carr. We asked what Russell had done—why he was howling—and he seemed positively dumfounded. It never occurred to him that he ought to have any other reason for doing anything except that the bosses ordered it. The railroad bosses who are mad because of Russell's opposition to monopoly press the button and the small fry dance and fume and yell. It makes a thinking man sick to see such a spectacle.

Yes, the Democrats profess friendship for free silver and honest elections but never neglect an opportunity to stab both in the back. The honest reader of history must admit that they have proved false to the people and the one wonder is that the rank and file of the party cannot see the wolf only half hidden by the sheep's clothing.

Whatever may be his views on co-operation, it is the first duty of every patriotic citizen to rebuke such shameless hypocrisy, by helping to crush the machine that has stolen the livery of good government and white supremacy in order to serve plutocracy and the corporations. And no populist can better serve the cause of reform, and no true Democrat can better serve his party than by helping in this effort.

Thanking you for your kind expressions, and assuring you that it gives me pleasure to answer your questions, I am,

Very truly yours,

CLARENCE H. POE, Asso. Editor PROGRESSIVE FARMER.